

## **Virginia HIV Community Planning Group Meeting Summary**

**Members Present:** Tim Agar; Odile Attiglah, Shimeles Bekele, Roy Berkowitz, Rhonda Callaham, Yiliu Chen, Susan Clinton, Hugo Delgado, Pierre Diaz, Gregory Fordham, Marilyn Freeman, Janet Hall, Robert Hewitt, Cheryl Hoffman, Mike King, Martha Lees, Nicholas Mattsson, Rachel Rees, Ruth Royster, Dorothy Shellman, Thomas Salyer, Edward Strickler, Bruce Taylor, Stanley Taylor, Adam Thompson, Donald Walker, Shannon Young

**Members Absent:** Rick Hall, Elaine Martin, Shawn McNulty, Diane Oehl, Thomas Womack, Dr. Rick Zimmerman

**Other Attendees:** Ayana Andrews-Joseph, Ashley Carter, Kathleen Carter, Sharon Carter-Hall and Shelley Taylor-Donahue of the Virginia Department of Health; Johanna McKee of the Pennsylvania/Mid-Atlantic AIDS Education and Training Center; Todd Brown of Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry; Linwood Alford of Open Door Resource Center

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Shelley Taylor-Donahue called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

### **New Business**

*2010 HIV Prevention Leadership Summit* will be held December 12-15, 2010 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. The purpose of the summit is for HIV partners to disseminate and exchange information on effective and innovative HIV prevention programs and strategies for program planning, management and implementation. Elaine Martin and Bruce Taylor will attend in their capacities as co-chairs; Cat Hulburt, Community Planner, will attend, as well. Shelley indicated one more CPG member be nominated to attend and asked for interested parties to raise their hands and explain why they wish to attend. Four members expressed interest, and Thomas Salyer was selected by a vote of the entire committee.

### **Membership**

- ❖ Melissa Baker has resigned to concentrate on her growing family.
- ❖ Yiliu Chen attended her first meeting today as the Epi. Profile Coordinator.

### **HIV Prevention Update – Shelley Taylor-Donahue reported for Cat Hulburt**

Shelley reported that \$150,000 was received in supplemental funding. The money has to be obligated by December 31st, but can be used throughout

2011 for training and capacity building. Projects in the works are 1) Nia, which focuses on African-American heterosexual men; 2) group facilitation training; 3) another *Black Women Loving Me* Conference; and 4) a two-day faith-based training for African-American men. Advertising on Facebook will continue.

### **Expanded HIV Testing**

The Expanded HIV Testing grant award was doubled to \$1.4 million. Field Services collaborated with HIV Care Services (HCS) and HCS will use part of the money (\$250,000) for funding a linkages-to-care component (linkages is follow-up to make sure HIV-positives are linked to care). Under the new cycle, which started September 29, VDH is allowed to expand testing beyond African Americans to include gay men, injection drug users, and Latinos.

### **HIV Care Update - Shelley Taylor-Donahue**

- ★ The Ryan White grant to HRSA was due October 18; Part B application is due January 3, 2011.
- ★ Interviews were conducted recently for two HIV Care positions (contract monitor and HIV services coordinator) and recruitment for a surveillance coordinator in HCS is underway.
- ★ Public hearings will be held November 4 at Northern Virginia Regional Commission and at Fan Free Clinic in Richmond on November 17; all information from these hearings will go into HCS' grant proposal.
- ★ Requests for Proposals will be coming out in a few weeks for:
  - 1) Substance Abuse for Central Region
  - 2) Service Coordination for Central Region
  - 3) Minority AIDS Initiative & Linkages for Central and Northern Regions
  - 4) Lead Agency for Southwest
- ★ Quality Management Summit on November 9 at Marriott Courtyard in Glen Allen, Virginia. The meeting will be focus on medical providers and Clemens Steinbock, Director at the National Quality Center, will be the guest speaker. Adam Thompson stated that the summit will be a good opportunity to look at current statewide services and determine whether funding is being wisely spent.

### **ADAP Update - Rachel Rees**

Rachel indicated that final decisions haven't been made yet, that a shortfall still exists but it has been shored up a bit, and enrollment will not be closed in November. The ADAP Advisory Committee met in October, made firm recommendations, and sent them to the State Health Commissioner for approval. Jennifer Flannagan will be doing statewide training on patient assistance programs and Rachel asked members to contact Jennifer at 804-864-7360 or [jennifer.flannagan@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:jennifer.flannagan@vdh.virginia.gov) if they want her to present in their communities.

Concerning eligibility criteria, Rachel stated that preference will be given to four categories: people already on treatment, except for those on patient assistance programs; individuals with a CD4 count at or under 400; children under the age of 13; and pregnant women. It is anticipated that these measures will be approved. All new or returning clients will have to go through Patient Services, Incorporated (PSI), and a conference call is scheduled Monday, November 1. Discussion followed concerning cost savings for the AAC's recommendation of CD4 count of 400 or less. Rachel stated this was the greatest cost savings with the least amount of damage; some states have had to go down to 250-300. Rachel asked members who have clients on Medicare Part D to call PSI because the cost savings are tremendous.

### **Ranking of Needs**

The committee reviewed the September 10th decision process and the recommendations made by the ad hoc group conference call, and then broke into five groups to rank needs

### **Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry - Todd Brown - *Partnerships for Hope***

Mr. Brown explained that his work with *Partnerships for Hope* with the Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry was born out of his concern for the Northern Virginia American-African faith community's lack of support for HIV prevention programs. *Partnerships* works to get pastor buy-in so that prevention programs can move forward. Out of this partnership has grown a Council of Clergy, currently numbering 13. Those wishing to learn more about this program were requested to contact Mr. Brown at 703-350-6397 or [tbrown@novam.org](mailto:tbrown@novam.org).

### **What Can PEMS and Surveillance Data Tell Us? - Sharon Carter Hall, Ayana Andrews-Joseph**

Sharon explained that the purpose of HIV/AIDS surveillance is to provide information on the temporal, geographic and demographic occurrence of HIV infection to assist in facilitating its prevention and control. She described the types of data collected and how they are used. Concerning "Country of Origin", Sharon stated that that information is not required and is sporadically collected. She showed what the Adult Case Report form looks like and stated that the information goes into the eHARS database. From there, surveillance data are used to create reports found at <http://www.vdh.state.va.us/epidemiology/DiseasePrevention/DAta/>. Sharon noted that quarterly reports contain a wealth of information, broken down by age, ethnicity, etc. Data are documented cases collected from people tested at confidential sites.

Ayana Andrews-Joseph presented on data collected for CDC's Program Evaluation and Monitoring System (PEMS). She reported that 90% of CBOs are

now reporting. There are currently 2,015 individual clients with risk profiles in the system and this information tells us what behavior they're engaging in. She reported that 2009 was a benchmark year and she hopes to have a complete analysis of 2010 data finalized in February in 2011.

### **Early Identification of Individuals Living With HIV and AIDS (EIIHA) - Shelley Taylor-Donahue**

This term originated from HRSA; it identifies people who are unaware of their status, works to get them tested, and makes sure they follow-up with care. The goal is to look at what kind of linkages to care are working, and what is not. Adam Thompson reported that at a recent National Quality Center meeting in DC, it was discovered that HRSA and CDC use different measurements for linkages to care. Shelley indicated that in one of HCS' upcoming RFPs, there will be a universal definition of linkages to care.

Shelley asked the group to brainstorm some ideas "outside of the box". Gregg Fordham told the group about HIV and syphilis testing scheduled at an upcoming *d-Up!* ball at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Norfolk, VA on December 3. He explained that *d-up!* training works with young black MSM and balls started out as competitions between different "houses" of different families. Members are recruited as in fraternities or sororities, but members don't live in the houses.

### **Proposed 2011 Meeting Calendar**

February 10

March 31-April 1 (Retreat)

May 19

July 8

September 8

October 28

December 8

### **Review of September Meeting Summary**

Motion was made to accept the minutes as written.

### **Planning for the December Meeting**

- ❖ Add Ranking of Needs from today's meeting
- ❖ Patient Assistance Programs – Jennifer Flannagan

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Bruce Taylor, Community Co-Chair

Date

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Kathleen Carter, Recording Secretary

Date